

REMARKS

The Examiner rejected claims 13-16 and 19-22 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Jackey et al. (US 4,430,158). Applicants respectfully disagree.

Applicants have amended claims 13, 15 and 21 to include the limitation of previously cancelled claim 2. Claims 13, 15 and 21, as amended, clearly identify that *“the reactive sulfonic acid derived compound contains an olefinic double bond capable of reaction.”* Support is found on page 5, lines 11-26 of the specification.

This added limitation is already present in claim 1, and so is also present in claims 3-12, which depend on claim 1. Claims 1 and 3-12 were found to be both novel and non-obvious over the prior art, including Jackey, and have been allowed by the Examiner. Claims 13, 15 and 21 now include this limitation, as do claims 14, 16-20 and 22, as each depends on one of the amended claims or a dependent claim thereof.

Furthermore, there is no disclosure, teaching or suggestion in Jackey to include, in the method of improving wet tensile strength of glass fiber, a reactive sulfonic acid derived compound containing olefinic double bonds capable of reaction, as is required by Applicants’ claimed invention.

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that all claims are novel and non-obvious over the above mentioned prior art reference and the rejections should be withdrawn.

For the foregoing reasons it is submitted that the present claims are in condition for allowance. The foregoing remarks are believed to be a full and complete response to the outstanding office action. If the Examiner believes that only minor issues remain to be resolved, a telephone call to the Undersigned is suggested.

Any required fees or any deficiency or overpayment in fees should be charged or credited to Deposit Account No. 50-1501 (Noveon, Inc.).

Respectfully submitted,

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